



State of Utah

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*Governor*

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*Lieutenant Governor*

## Department of Agriculture and Food

Leonard M. Blackham  
*Commissioner*

Kyle R. Stephens  
*Deputy Commissioner*

Kathleen Clarke  
*Deputy Commissioner*

May 15, 2008

### Grant Application Period Opens For Wildland Fire Mitigation Project Funding

Message from Commissioner Blackham.

As you may know, the Utah Legislature appropriated \$2 million to the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF) to launch an effort to limit the occurrence of catastrophic fires in our state through mitigation of invasive species such as cheatgrass. The funds will be granted to public or private entities for projects that demonstrate their ability to successfully address the challenge outlined in SB 89, Mitigation of Invasive Species. Attached you will find a document that invites proposals and outlines criteria for project evaluation as well as a copy of the legislation itself, SB89.

You will note that the window of opportunity for application for funding is very short due to the fact that we need to use the money and produce results in this fiscal year. We hope to have numerous projects from which the selection committee will use the defined criteria to award funded projects. We encourage you to complete the application to the extent possible at this time, and submit it to the UDAF as soon as practicable. This will help us evaluate the need for and interest in extending the program.

Thank you.